

A 'taste of home' comes to GTMO

Story by MC2(AW) Honey Nixon, Public Affairs Office

'Fresh' was the word, Oct. 11, as the NEX/Commissary unveiled its new Deli/Bakery to Guantanamo Bay residents. Offering a variety of fresh sliced meats, cheeses and breads, the deli bakery is ready to deliver a 'taste of home' to its customers.

"Our theme, and goal from the start of this project, was to bring a taste of home to residents here," said Courtney Jackson, Commissary store manager. "I grew up in the military overseas, and I know some of the things people do without. So, it was important for us to be able to give that taste of 'Hometown, USA'."

Jackson and her team of deli workers accomplished that goal.

"One thing I always look forward when I go home is fresh bread, sliced deli meat and cheeses," said MA3 Joyce Delong. "So, it's really great they have this here now."

"I am ecstatic with the turnout," said Jackson. "I couldn't be happier. The feedback I have already gotten is great. People keep telling us it's just like going to a state-side supermarket."

"It's wonderful to have a fresh option of meats and cheeses," said Michael Youberg, who picked up some baby Swiss cheese, various meats, and some bread to make his specialty breakfast dish. "Now, I can make my homemade French toast," he grinned.



Photo by MC2(AW) Honey Nixon

NAVSTA leadership, NEX and Commissary workers, cut loaves of fresh bread, officially opening the new NEX Bakery/Deli on Oct. 11.

The deli/bakery workers worked through the night, some without sleep, to ensure there was plenty of bread to sell.

"I absolutely couldn't have done it without my associates," added Jackson.

The deli/bakery is another GTMO morale booster for the community and developed relatively quickly.

"We submitted the proposal in April to management, and it took six months, from proposal to finish," said Jackson. "It really helped that Capt. Leary (NAVSTA

commanding officer) was behind us 100 percent."

The Deli/Bakery is still a work in progress, and the NEX team isn't finished yet.

"We are looking at expanding the deli," said Jackson, "possibly adding rotisserie chicken and more variety to the products. By the end of the month we will have 28 varieties of bread, and 21 different meats. We have much more in the works."



People, Cutter, Mission — Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of GTMO toured the USCG Cutter Diligence on Thursday, Oct. 12, when it pulled into the station for stores and fuel. The tour of the cutter coincided with the local premier of the movie 'Guardian.' The cutter has two Alco 251CE 16 cylinder turbo diesel engines; displaces 1109 tons; is 210 feet long, with a beam of 34 feet. The cutter is homeported in Wilmington, N.C.